

REMARKS

The Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 13.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claim 10 has been amended and claim 13 has been canceled. Claims 1-9 have been previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer for filing in a continuation application. Thus, claims 10-17 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

Informal Matters

In the Office Action mailed October 10, 2007, the title was objected to for informalities. The title has been amended responsive to the objection. If any additional amendment is necessary to overcome the objection the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 13 was objected to only as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 10, 11, 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ueno et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,757,016 (hereinafter, "Ueno") and claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ueno in view of Duncan et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,961,084 (hereinafter, "Duncan"). Merely to facilitate allowance of the instant application, the Applicants have amended claim 10 to include

the allowable subject matter of claim 13, thereby placing claim 10 in condition for allowance.

As claim 10 is allowable, the Applicant submits that claims 11, 12 and 14-17, which depend from allowable claim 10, are likewise allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 10.

Conclusion

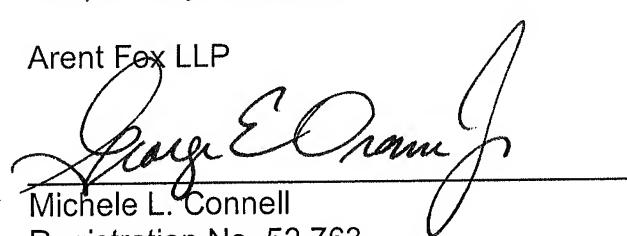
For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 10-12 and 14-17 are in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing client matter number 100341-00060.

Respectfully submitted,

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